

Wilbur Wright College

One of the City Colleges of Chicago

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FCCCC President's Address
CCC Board of Trustee's Meeting
Thursday, February 5, 2004

Chairman Tyree, Chancellor Watson, members of the Board, Officers of the District, faculty, staff and all others present, Good morning!

In the January meetings of Committee A and Faculty Council, we discussed the quality enhancement review process and the confusion about its impact and consequences. I want, however, to postpone the details until after our February meeting at which Vice Chancellor Deidra Lewis has agreed to attend.

Today, I want to present the Faculty Council website and highlight the advantages of this tool for the faculty and the district.

As I mentioned in the last report, after much discussion among the officers of the Faculty Council, in consultation with the OIT Department at District Office, we decided to go with a Blackboard site. The primary reason was ease of use. Many faculty already use Blackboard to supplement their courses and are familiar with the site, so it was decided that this would be the best and easiest method to disseminate and to archive information to faculty. We've tweaked the site some by changing the buttons to support the kinds of work we do, but the template remains basically the same. Moreover, Blackboard is already linked to the District Office main website and to the individual campus's websites.

Let me just point out a few highlights of the site. You can see that the main buttons include, among the more familiar Links and Discussion Board, FCCCC Constitution, Council Members, Presidential Reports, and Documents. Under Documents, for example, we have posted a schedule of our meeting date, information many faculty members don't seem to have, an archive of minutes for previous meetings (so we don't reinvent the wheel), a folder with information on tenure, which we hope will include some examples of best practices, a folder for documents to be examined by the faculty (that could include proposed syllabi or recommendations from chairs, for instance), and a folder for the forms needed to move material through the process of curriculum change. In the links section, we have included links to organizations that are important

ICCFA, ICCB, IBHE, and iTransfer. We have also included links to the District's page on faculty forms.

This website is not complete, but it is a beginning. And as such it provides the faculty with a forum to discuss issues, with a digital archive of previous work and of forms, and with the opportunity for faculty to more easily communicate across the district.

That concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted,

Polly Hoover
FCCCC President